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Applicant : Kevin J. McKernan

Art Unit : 1645

Serial No. : 10/042,923

Examiner :

Filed : January 9, 2002

Title : METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR THE ISOLATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 40, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Abstract

The invention includes reagents and methods for the isolation of nucleic acids. The reagents described herein contain a nucleic acid precipitating agent and a solid phase carrier. The reagents can optionally be formulated to cause the lysis of a cell. These reagents can be used to isolate a target nucleic acid molecule from a cell or a solution containing a mixture of different size nucleic acid molecules. The disclosed reagents and methods provides a simple, robust and readily automatable means of nucleic acid isolation and purification which produces high quality nucleic acid molecules suitable for: capillary electrophoresis, nucleotide sequencing, reverse transcription cloning the transfection, transduction or microinjection of mammalian cells, gene therapy protocols, the *in vitro* synthesis of RNA probes, cDNA library construction and PCR amplification.--

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit

March 27, 2002

Signature

Dorlene J. Morin

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Dorlene J. Morin

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Attorney's Docket No.: 12130-007001

REMARKS

The amendment to the specification adds the term "Abstract" before the paragraph contained on page 40 of the application. The paragraph on page 40 is the abstract of the disclosure. This amendment adds no new matter.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

No fee is believed due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 12130-007001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 27, 2002

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning at page 40, line 3 has been amended as follows:

Abstract

The invention includes reagents and methods for the isolation of nucleic acids. The reagents described herein contain a nucleic acid precipitating agent and a solid phase carrier. The reagents can optionally be formulated to cause the lysis of a cell. These reagents can be used to isolate a target nucleic acid molecule from a cell or a solution containing a mixture of different size nucleic acid molecules. The disclosed reagents and methods provides a simple, robust and readily automatable means of nucleic acid isolation and purification which produces high quality nucleic acid molecules suitable for: capillary electrophoresis, nucleotide sequencing, reverse transcription cloning the transfection, transduction or microinjection of mammalian cells, gene therapy protocols, the *in vitro* synthesis of RNA probes, cDNA library construction and PCR amplification.